

LETIBUS EDITION TEXTBOOK

ABDEC

THE WRITING SYSTEM OF
THE "ABB" CREATURES



BY BLAŽ URBAN GRACAR



LETIBUS CLASSIC
TRANSPARENT SHEET INCLUDED

• since 1974 •



**LETi
BUS**

2023



Reissue of the lost textbook
originally published in 1998

The original book's credits 4 pages ahead

Editor-In-Chief: **Nataša Vodopivec**
Published by **Letibus Design**, © 2023

CIP - Kataložni zapis o publikaciji
Narodna in univerzitetna knjižnica, Ljubljana
793.7

GRACAR, Blaž

Abdec : the writing system of "ABB" creatures / by Blaž
Urban Gracar. - Ljubljana : Letibus Design, 2023

ISBN 978-961-95853-2-0

COBISS.SI-ID 156738563



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The book in front of you is a reissue of our older title "Abdec", originally published in 1998 as an entry in our discontinued textbook series "Letibus Edition".

All copies of "Abdec" were long thought to be lost, until a book was recently found in the private collection of Mrs. Roberta Chinaski, who was kind enough to allow us to scan and photograph her copy for this release.

In a little more than two decades, most of the important documents and notes about the "Abb" creatures got misplaced and forgotten, in a large part due to lack of public interest and funding.

But even more importantly, all major researchers

of the “Abb” – people who also wrote the Abdec textbook – disappeared in November 1999, when they jointly descended into Karst caves in Slovenia to investigate the site of the last “Abb” sighting.

Due to all original contributors missing, we couldn't verify or correct any info, so we present the book unaltered, as owned by Mrs. Chinaski, with burnt and missing pages, scribbles and additional annotated paper scraps found in between the pages.

This book is as much a reissue of a historical document as it is a plead to you, the reader. With Abdec, we finally have a chance to regain the lost knowledge.

Can you help us decipher Abdec,
the writing system of the “Abb” creatures?



ALSO IN
LETIBUS EDITION TEXTBOOK
SERIES 8:

History of Arctic Arithmetics
Lok 2: Tiak
The Art Of Music: Fire Notes
Abdon: Language of the Abb Creatures
Alchemy For Beginners (Grey Emblem)
Advanced Alchemy (Red Emblem)
Lineon And Its Significance



LETIBUS

1998

Bea-49



This textbook was made with the help of
Slovenian Association For Conservation
of the Abb Culture (SiDAK)

MAIN RESEARCH, CREATED BY
Blaž Urban Gracar

CONTRIBUTING #11. DISCOVERING THE MECHANIC
INTRODUCED IN #39
Deusovi

PROOFREADING (EXERCISES), DISCOVERY OF THE
MECHANIC USED IN #48
Sophie He

PROOFREADING (TEXTS)
Matevž Kovačič

THANKS TO THESE COLLEAGUES FOR ADDITION-
AL RESEARCH AND FEEDBACK
Raindrinker, Stephen Lavelle, William Hu, Martin
Ender, Hsien-Chih Chang, Mark Willis, Pedro PSI,
Zachary Talis, Jack Lance, Ivan Bosnić, Icely,
SeptaCube, Jeremy Hoffman

Published by Letibus Design © 1998

CIP - Kataložni zapis o publikaciji
Narodna in univerzitetna knjižnica, Ljubljana

793.7

GRACAR, Blaž Urban.
Abdec / [created by Blaž Urban Gracar]. - Ljubljana : Letibus Design, 1998

ISBN 978-961-43-170-53
COBISS.SI-ID 107335681

Let this one be
the last one



ABDEC

THE WRITING SYSTEM OF
THE "ABB" CREATURES

Forty-four exercises
in "Abb" typography
for old and young scholars

compiled and curated by
Blaž Urban Gracar



DIFFICULTY:





To solve the following exercises, you must figure out all of the rules by yourself. Rules are consistent between exercises and letters.



Every exercise has a unique solution. Uniqueness of solutions is a way to determine if you have the correct rule set.



It is advised to sometimes look at multiple exercises in a row, especially when you encounter something new.



At the end of the book, you can find hints (page 54), explained rules (62) and solutions (65).

● ALPHABET

a



c

b



d



MISSING PART
OF THE PAGE

● ABOUT THE "ABB"



The existence of the "Abb" creatures has been discovered in 1989, when an abandoned settlement of theirs was found under a small rock in Slovenia. An elusive and mysterious species, only 3 more "Abb" towns have been discovered since; all empty, but with a great wealth of their scriptures left behind.

at 9 years

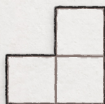


MISSING PART
OF THE PAGE

ONE

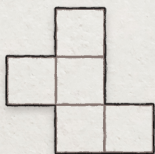
Place all assigned shapes into the grid.

a



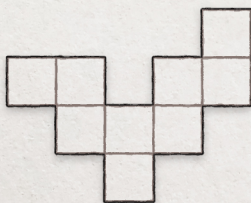
TWO

b



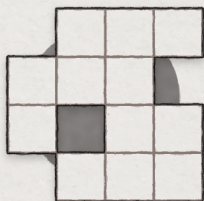
THREE

a b



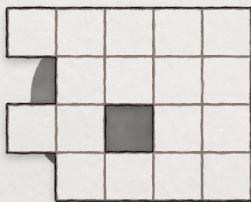
FOUR

a a b b



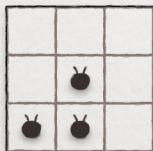
FIVE

b b b b b



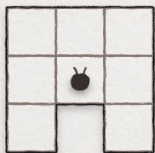
SIX

a



SEVEN

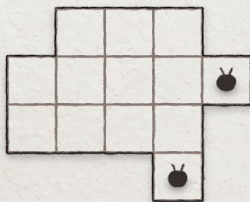
b b



EIGHT

-x-

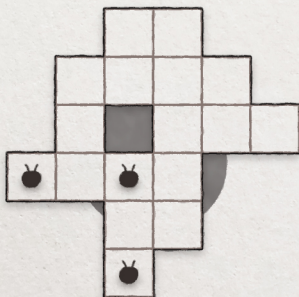
a a a b



-^-

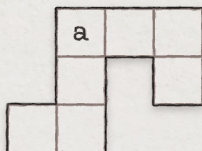
NINE

a a b b b



TEN

a



ELEVEN

b b

		b		b		
--	--	---	--	---	--	--

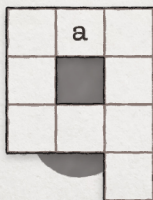
TWELVE

b b

					b	
			b			

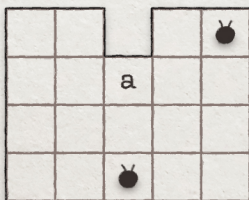
THIRTEEN

a b



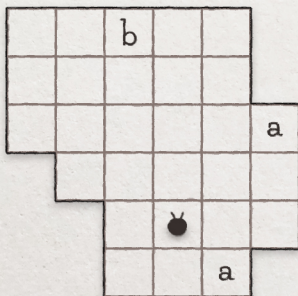
FOURTEEN

a a a a



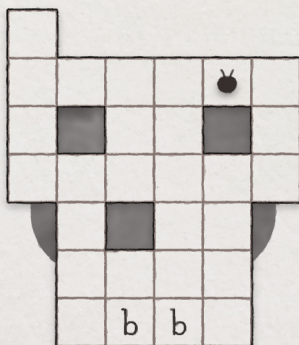
FIFTEEN

a a a b b b



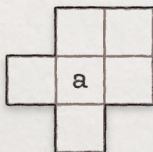
SIXTEEN

b b b b b b b



SEVENTEEN

a c



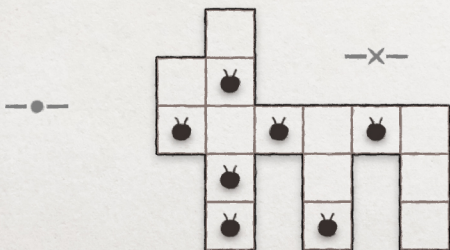
EIGHTEEN

a a b c c

c			
			c

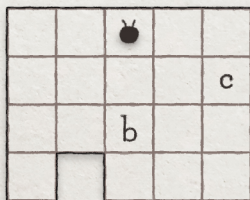
NINETEEN

a a b b c



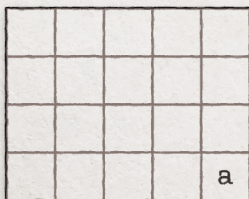
TWENTY

a b c c c c c c



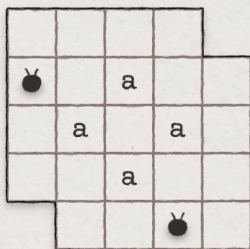
TWENTY-ONE

b b b b c c c



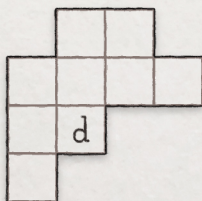
TWENTY-TWO

C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C



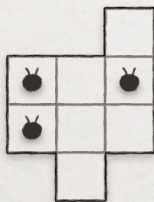
TWENTY-THREE

a b



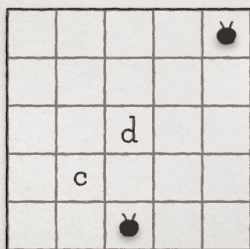
TWENTY-FOUR

d



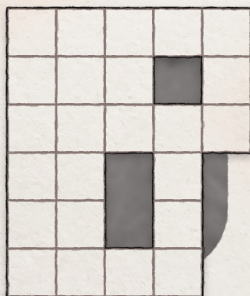
TWENTY-FIVE

b b c d



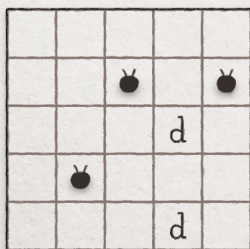
TWENTY-SIX

a b b b d d



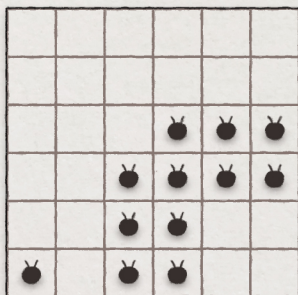
TWENTY-SEVEN

a a b b



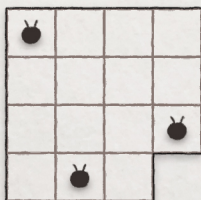
TWENTY-EIGHT

a



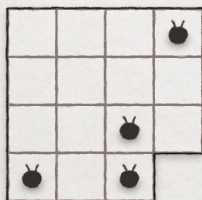
TWENTY-NINE

a c



THIRTY

a c



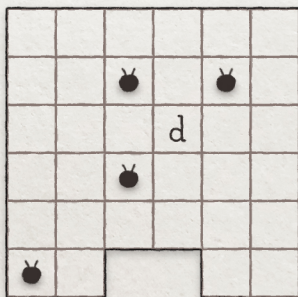
THIRTY-ONE

b b b b

		b	b		

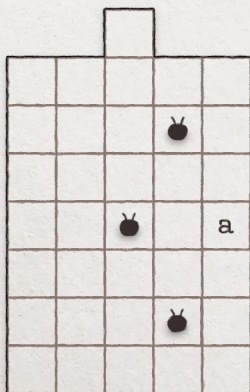
THIRTY-TWO

C C C C



THIRTY-THREE

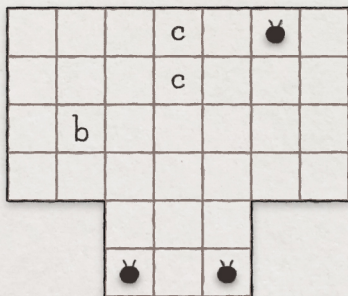
a a a a a a a a b



—C—

THIRTY-FOUR

b c c d



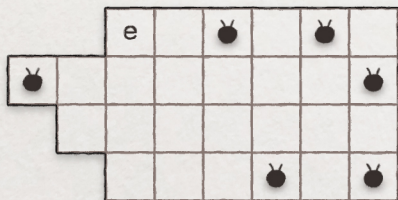
THIRTY-FIVE

b b b b c

e		e	e		e
e		e		e	
				e	e

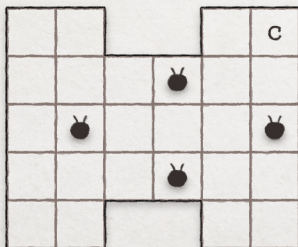
THIRTY-SIX

a b e



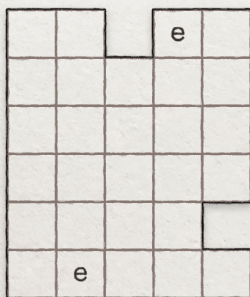
THIRTY-SEVEN

a c e



THIRTY-EIGHT

a a a c



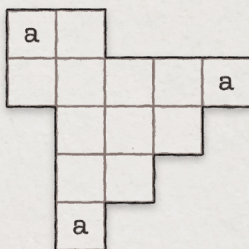
THIRTY-NINE

b

	b		
		b	

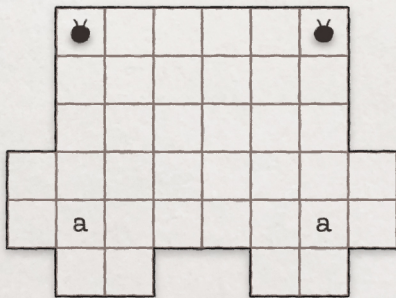
FORTY

a a a c



FORTY-ONE

৯ ৯ ৯



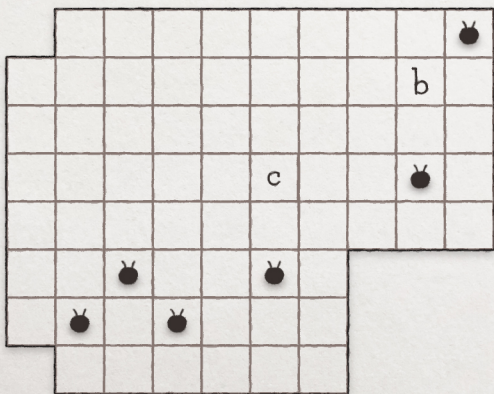
FORTY-TWO

a a b c

			b
	●		
	●		
	●	●	
	●	●	
			c

FORTY-THREE

b c d e

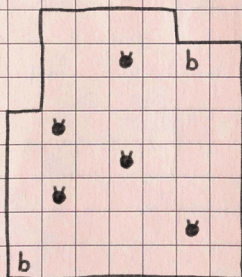


FORTY-FOUR

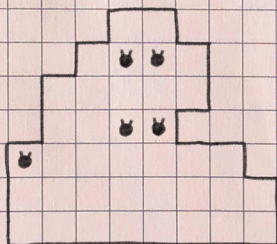
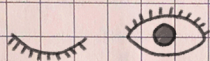
a b c d

	a		●		
c					
				d	
		b			
	b		●		

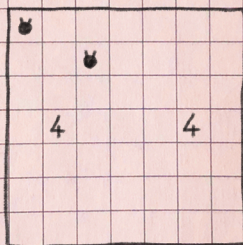
45



46

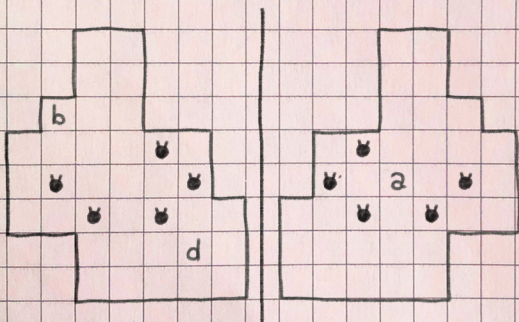


47



abd

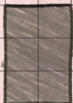
abd



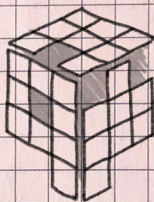
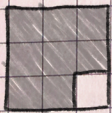
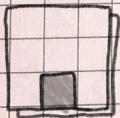
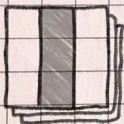
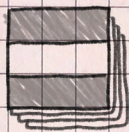


b

e



* * * * *





Congratulations!



You solved all the exercises and are now truly a master of Abdec, the writing system of the "Abb" creatures!

This is as far as our current knowledge of Abdec reaches. Since there has been only one recorded sighting of a living "Abb" creature, we can't rely on asking *them*; our only hope to understand this tiny fascinating civilisation is to study and decipher their scriptures.

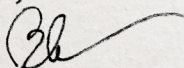


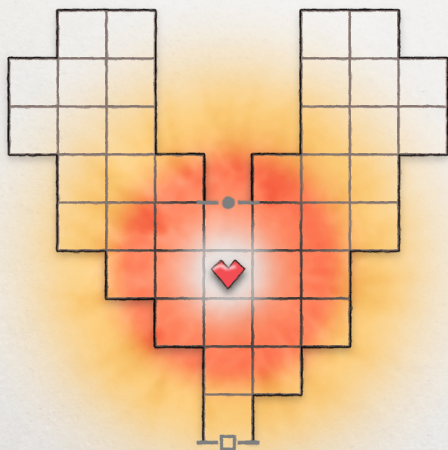
One sentence is repeated again and again in the scriptures, perhaps being the most revealing about the "Abb" way of thinking.

Abdec C Abb Ddaa C Cabed Abc E
word (therefore) self move (therefore) place all (end)

It roughly translates to "Through knowledge we are eternal". We hope you will carry their lesson in your heart on your future adventures. Let your curiosity never stop.

Blaž Urban Gracar
and fellow researchers





● HINTS

📖 Basics

ONE

- *It's as simple as it looks.*

TWO, THREE

- *If it fits, it sits.*
- *No need to paint the whole canvas.*

FOUR, FIVE

- *Don't look too deeply into the void.*
- *Stick to the script.*

 Adjectives

SIX

• *It needs company.*

SEVEN - NINE

• *Always under the shade.*

 Nouns

TEN

- *Waiting on the airport with the sign.*
- *Autograph.*

ELEVEN - FIFTEEN

- *The requirement is strict.*
- *Eternally unbothered.*
- *Nobody is welcome in our yard.*

SIXTEEN

- *It can sign its name many times.*

 Punctuation

SEVENTEEN

- *Born out of thin air.*

EIGHTEEN - TWENTY

- *The smallest known number.*

TWENTY-ONE, TWENTY-TWO

- *Strict on the outside, varied on the inside.*
- *Smaller fish form a big one.*

 Phrasing

TWENTY-THREE

- *Scraps forged into a whole.*
- *The form isn't clear yet.*



TWENTY-FOUR - TWENTY-SIX

- *It can walk between mirrors.*

TWENTY-SEVEN

- *One of the twins is not like the other.*

 Letter Cases

TWENTY-EIGHT

- *It's always the same shapes.*
- *Corners know their place.*
- *Finally unbound, allowed to breathe.*

TWENTY-NINE, THIRTY

- *Siblings of any age cohabiting.*

THIRTY-ONE - THIRTY-THREE

- *Matryoshka dolls.*

THIRTY-FOUR

- *Only one adult present.*

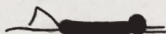
 Sentences

THIRTY-FIVE - THIRTY-SEVEN

- *Be very thorough.*
- *Follow all trails.*

THIRTY-EIGHT

- *There is nothing new here.*



 Formatting

THIRTY-NINE, FORTY

- *It's always the same shapes.*
- *Corners know their place.*
- *Completely under the shade.*

FORTY-ONE

- *The key is hidden in the symmetry.*

FORTY-TWO

- *Two hands can cover it.*

FORTY-THREE

- *When all others fail,
the chosen one is revealed.*
- *Only one passageway available.*

FORTY-FOUR

- *It's always the same shapes.*
- *Corners know their place.*

● EXPLAINED RULES

Basics

- "A" is an L shape that fits into a 2x3 grid.
- "B" is a 1x3 shape.
- You must place all letter shapes that are transcribed above the grid into the grid.
- Letter shapes can be rotated, but they can't overlap.
- You don't have to fill the whole grid with shapes.

Adjectives

- You must cover all critters with letter shapes.
- One letter shape can cover multiple critters.

Nouns

- A letter cowl midsidni tset that the coverel letter shapem tawm covet it.
- Letter shapet that covet a letter cowl t'ntac
- O letter shapet caw covet mltiplet letter cimes.

Punctuation

- "C" is a xz shapet.
- A lotg as the shapet eqare a letter clme is covet of mltiplet shapet.

Phrasing

- "D" is a shapet that t'nto a xz bing as mlt.
- (X bemp empt yz space, O filled up space):XOX, .000,XOX
- Shapet can not only be rotated, but also berrortim.

Letter Cases

• Letter cases refer to the way letters are displayed. For example, the letter 'a' can be written in lowercase or uppercase. The default is lowercase, but you can change it to uppercase if you want. The same rule applies to all other letters.

Sentences

• Sentences are groups of words that form a complete thought. They usually start with a capital letter and end with a period, exclamation mark, or question mark. The first letter of the first word in a sentence should be capitalized. The rest of the words should be in lowercase, unless they are proper nouns or the start of a new sentence.

Formatting

• Formatting refers to the way text is presented. This includes things like font size, color, bolding, italics, and bullet points. You can use formatting to make your text more readable and visually appealing. For example, you can use bolding to emphasize important words or phrases. You can use italics to represent titles or foreign words. You can use bullet points to list items. You can use different font sizes to create a hierarchy of information.

● SOLUTIONS

ONE



TWO



THREE



FOUR



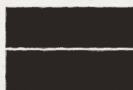
FIVE



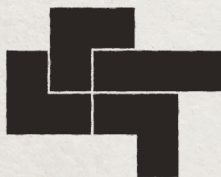
SIX



SEVEN



EIGHT



NINE



TEN



ELEVEN



TWELVE



THIRTEEN



FOURTEEN



SPOILERS

FIFTEEN





MISSING PART
OF THE PAGE

TWENTY-EIGHT



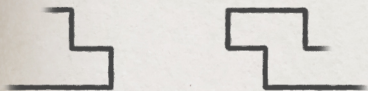


MISSING PART
OF THE PAGE

THIRTY-ONE



PATH OF ADULTS XVII





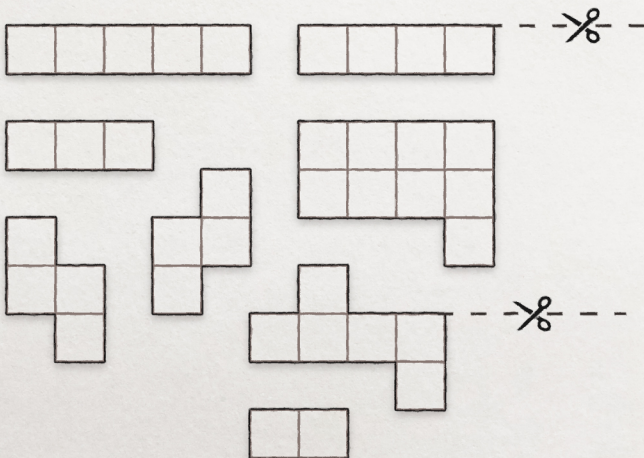
BLAŽ URBAN GRACAR (1932)
is a Slovenian artist and one of the leading scholars
of the "Abb" culture in Europe. He also composes
award-winning music for theatre, plays piano in a
local band, writes fiction books, makes animated
films and creates puzzles. He lives by the sea with his
partner, her daughter, three cats, a dog and a turtle.

Photo from personal archive

BUILD YOUR OWN BUS!



Collect all eight Letibus
Edition textbooks (Series 8) and
cut out all pieces to build your own bus mosaic!



Send the finished mosaic to Letibus
Design headquarters to win a prize!



blazgracar.com/abdec
blazgracar.com/letibus
blazgracar@gmail.com

A L L A B D E C A T

E Y E S L A Z Y E S

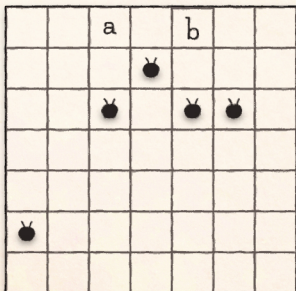
A G R A C E W A R S

C A R D W O M A N D

U L T R A S

LETiBUS

1998



ABDEC

Decipher the long lost Abdec textbook
through more than 70 mind-blowing
and page-transcending exercises.

LETIBUS003



blazgracar.com/abdec

